

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:OEXC, UR

SUBJECT:IREX ROLE IN UNIVERSITY TO UNIVERSITY EXCHANGES

REF: A. STATE 51485; B. STATE 302074 (DEC 1975)

1. IN LETTERS TO UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS INVITING PARTICIPATION IN MARCH 12 AAASS MEETING TO DISCUSS UNIVERSITY TO UNIVERSITY EXCHANGES (REFTEL A), IREX EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR KASSOF SAYS THAT MHE AND "RECTORATES" OF MGU AND LGU ASKED IREX TO "EXPLORE WITH ITS MEMBER UNIVERSITIES THEIR INTEREST IN DIRECT EXCHANGES BETWEEN SOVIET AND AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS AND TO ASSIST IN THEIR ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION" DURING JANUARY IREX VISIT TO SOVIET UNION. LETTERS ALSO STATE THAT "SOVIETS INDICATED THAT SOME INFORMAL AUTHORIZATION FOR THEM SHOULD BE REFLECTED IN THE NEW INTERGOVERNMENTAL CULTURAL AGREEMENT".

2. WOULD APPRECIATE BRIEF EMBASSY AND CONGEN RECAPS OF DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN IREX AND SOVIET OFFICIALS ON DIRECT UNIVERSITY TO UNIVERSITY EXCHANGES OF WHICH THEY ARE AWARE, AS WELL AS ANY OTHER INDICATIONS AVAILABLE RE WHAT

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ROLE SOVIETS ENVISION FOR IREX IN SUCH EXCHANGES.

3. DEPARTMENT'S THINKING ON IREX ROLE REMAINS ESSENTIALLY
AS STATED IN REFTEL B. REQUEST EMBASSY COMMENT.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE RESPONSE BY C.O.B. MARCH TEN SO THAT
DEPARTMENT OFFICERS CAN USE IN PREPARING FOR PARTICIPA-
TION IN MARCH 12 MEETING. KISSINGER

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